

DOE/EIS-0360

**DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION
AND OPERATION OF A DEPLETED URANIUM
HEXAFLUORIDE CONVERSION FACILITY
AT THE PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, SITE**

DECEMBER 2003



U.S. Department of Energy-Oak Ridge Operations
Office of Environmental Management

COVER SHEET

RESPONSIBLE FEDERAL AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

TITLE: Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Construction and Operation of a Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride Conversion Facility at the Portsmouth, Ohio, Site (DOE/EIS-0360)

CONTACT: For further information on this environmental impact statement (EIS), contact:

Gary S. Hartman
DOE-ORO Cultural Resources Management Coordinator
U.S. Department of Energy-Oak Ridge Operations
P.O. Box 2001
Oak Ridge, TN 37831
e-mail: Ports_DUF6@anl.gov
phone: 1-866-530-0944
fax: 1-866-530-0943

For general information on the DOE National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, contact:

Carol Borgstrom, Director
Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance (EH-42)
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585
202-586-4600, or leave message at 1-800-472-2756

ABSTRACT: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposes, via a contract awarded at the direction of Congress (Public Law 107-206), to design, construct, and operate two conversion facilities for converting depleted uranium hexafluoride (commonly referred to as DUF₆): one at Portsmouth, Ohio, and one at Paducah, Kentucky. DOE intends to use the proposed facilities to convert its inventory of DUF₆ to a more stable chemical form suitable for beneficial use or disposal. This site-specific EIS analyzes the construction, operation, maintenance, and decontamination and decommissioning (D&D) of the proposed DUF₆ conversion facility at three alternative locations within the Portsmouth site; transportation of all cylinders (DUF₆, enriched, and empty) currently stored at the East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) near Oak Ridge, Tennessee, to Portsmouth; construction of a new cylinder storage yard at Portsmouth (if required) for ETTP cylinders; transportation of depleted uranium conversion products and waste materials to a disposal facility; transportation and sale of the hydrogen fluoride (HF) produced as a conversion co-product; and neutralization of HF to calcium fluoride (CaF₂) and its sale or disposal in the event that the HF product is not sold. This EIS also considers a no action alternative that assumes continued storage of DUF₆ at the Portsmouth and ETTP sites. A separate EIS is being prepared for the proposed facility at Paducah (DOE/EIS-0359). To ensure consideration, comments on this draft EIS must be postmarked by February 2, 2004; late comments will be considered to the extent practicable.

